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MAR 17 2006

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of  
Watson et al.  
Application No. 09/940,969  
Filed: August 28, 2001  
Attorney Docket No. 79368.000

**ON PETITION**

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.181 to withdraw the holding of abandonment, filed March 1, 2005 and resent on January 13, 2006.

The petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment is **Dismissed**.

Any request for reconsideration should be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this decision in order to be considered timely. 37 CFR 1.181(f). This time period may not be extended pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136.

This application became abandoned for failure to timely submit a complete set of corrected drawings, as required by the Notice Regarding Drawings which was mailed October 28, 2004. The Notice Regarding Drawings set a one (1) month period for reply. A reply was submitted on December 13, 2004. However, a Notice of Abandonment was mailed indicating the reply submitted on December 13, 2004 was not a proper reply because replacement figures 3-13 were not submitted as required.

Petitioner states she received the Notice Regarding Drawings and called the examiner. Petitioner states the examiner faxed a copy of the drawing and a letter regarding the changes to the drawing. Petitioner believed the corrected drawing was sufficient and relied upon the assistance the examiner provided. Petitioner insist that she had no intention to abandon her application.

Petitioner's argument has been considered, but is not persuasive to establish the abandonment should be withdrawn. The Notice Regarding Drawings clearly states that the drawings were objected to because "the lines, numbers and letters are not uniformly thick, and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality) figs. 1-13". The Notice also required corrected drawings. As such petitioner was required to send in corrected drawings for figures 1-13, not just figures 1 and 2. The interaction petitioner

had with the examiner cannot supersede the requirements presented in the Notice Regarding Drawings. Further, to the extent there was confusion or uncertainty as to the requirements, petitioner could have sought clarification from the draftsperson whose number was provided in the Notice.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.2, all business with the Patent and Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt. It should be noted the letter from the examiner constitutes unofficial communication which is not deemed as part of the record.

While unfortunate, the application remains abandoned. It is further noted, petitioner has yet to comply with the Notice Regarding Drawings by sending in a complete set of corrected drawings.

Petitioner may wish to consider filing a petition to revive based on unintentional abandonment under 37 CFR 1.137(b). A grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) must be accompanied by the required reply, the required petition fee, and a statement that the **entire** delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) was unintentional.

The filing of a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) cannot be intentionally delayed, and therefore, must be filed promptly. A person seeking revival due to unintentional delay cannot make a statement that the delay was unintentional unless the entire delay, including the delay from the date it was discovered that the application was abandoned until the filing of the petition to revive under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b), was unintentional. A statement that the delay was unintentional is not appropriate if petitioner intentionally delayed the filing of a petition for revival under 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b).

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: **Mail Stop Petition**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300

By delivery service:  
(FedEx, UPS, DHL, etc.) **U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**  
Customer Service Window,  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street

Alexandria, VA 22314

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to the undersigned at  
(571) 272-3215.



Charlema R. Grant  
Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions

enclosure

**PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT  
ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.137(b)**

Docket Number (Optional)

First named inventor:

Application No.:

Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

Title:

Attention: Office of Petitions

**Mail Stop Petition**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FAX (571) 273-8300

**NOTE:** If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper reply to a notice or action by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The date of abandonment is the day after the expiration date of the period set for reply in the office notice or action plus an extensions of time actually obtained.

**APPLICANT HEREBY PETITIONS FOR REVIVAL OF THIS APPLICATION**

**NOTE:** A grantable petition requires the following items:

- (1) Petition fee;
- (2) Reply and/or issue fee;
- (3) Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee - required for all utility and plant applications filed before June 8, 1995; and for all design applications; and
- (4) Statement that the entire delay was unintentional.

**1. Petition fee**

Small entity-fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (37 CFR 1.17(m)). Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

Other than small entity – fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (37 CFR 1.17(m))

**2. Reply and/or fee**

A. The reply and/or fee to the above-noted Office action in the form of \_\_\_\_\_ (identify type of reply):

has been filed previously on \_\_\_\_\_.  
is enclosed herewith.

B. The issue fee and publication fee (if applicable) of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.  
 has been paid previously on \_\_\_\_\_.  
 is enclosed herewith.

[Page 1 of 2]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.137(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.*

## 3. Terminal disclaimer with disclaimer fee

Since this utility/plant application was filed on or after June 8, 1995, no terminal disclaimer is required.

A terminal disclaimer (and disclaimer fee (37 CFR 1.20(d)) of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for a small entity or \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for other than a small entity) disclaiming the required period of time is enclosed herewith (see PTO/SB/63).

## 4. STATEMENT: The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. [NOTE: The United States Patent and Trademark Office may require additional information if there is a question as to whether either the abandonment or the delay in filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional (MPEP 711.03(c), subsections (III)(C) and (D).]

**WARNING:**

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or printed name\_\_\_\_\_  
Registration Number, if applicable\_\_\_\_\_  
Address\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number\_\_\_\_\_  
AddressEnclosures:  Fee Payment Reply Terminal Disclaimer Form Additional sheets containing statements establishing unintentional delay Other: \_\_\_\_\_**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being:

Deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as (571) 273-8300.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature\_\_\_\_\_  
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate

## Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.